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was work<sup>2</sup> left to be done, but with the satisfaction that agreement had been reached on a package addressing much of the state's projected \$220 million tax receipt shortfall. That brings us to today. This morning I am introducing budget measures to address the \$30 million in deficit requests received from agencies to account for a portion of our remaining \$50 million revenue shortfall. As you will recall from the special session, I suggested four principles to guide our action in addressing our state's budget shortfall. They included: one, no tax increase; two, protect priorities, including state aid to schools, Medicaid, public assistance, and public safety, from across-the-board reductions; three, to keep our cash reserve untouched; and, four, to address most of the budget shortfall in the special session. Today, I submit a partial budget modification framework that remains true to these principles. Through sound management practices, reallocation of resources, and prudent program changes these budget adjustments remedy almost half of the \$50 million shortfall. Just as I promised you last fall before determining what other budget actions are necessary, we will responsibly wait until the state's economic forecasters provide us with an updated fiscal assessment in February. However, I remain committed to solving the problem on the spending side of the ledger and not through tax increases that take away from the pocketbooks of Nebraska's working families. Fiscal issues will limit consideration of new major spending initiatives in this short legislative session, but there is other work to be done, including much-needed action on several criminal justice initiatives. Over the past three years, we have scored success in criminal justice and law enforcement by increasing the number of State Patrol officers, by settling a longstanding wage dispute with the State Troopers Association, by criminalizing child enticement, increasing the penalties for being an accessory to a felony, launching the state's sex offender registry, boosting law enforcement technology, and lengthening jail time for methamphetamine dealers. Despite these successes, work remains to be done on other criminal justice priorities. This is the session to get the job done. The issues I am asking you to act on include reform of postconviction appeals, enactment of statutes to criminalize fetal homicide, changing our state's method of execution to lethal injection, making needed changes to the sex